

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 243211

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, EAID, CY

SUBJECT: FY 74 FOREIGN ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION RESTRICTION

REF: A. NICOSIA 2430; B. STATE 236151

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES EMBASSY'S SENSITIVITIES RE
INCLUSION CYPRUS ON LIST OF COUNTRIES WITH U.S. "MILITARY
BASES" PURSUANT TO FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT. CURRENT THINK-
ING HERE, HOWEVER, IS THAT PROPOSED WORDING OF RECOMMENDA-
TION TO PRESIDENT MEETS OBJECTIONS TO ITS INCLUSION ON
LIST AND THAT CYPRUS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN LIST IN ORDER:

A. TO BE CONSISTENT WITH INCLUSION ON LIST OF OTHER
COUNTRIES HAVING SIMILAR FACILITIES PERFORMING SIMILAR
FUNCTIONS

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B. TO MEET THE INTENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE PROVISION LINKING AID ELIGIBILITY TO "BASE" ACCESS POLICIES (WHICH IN FACT STEMMED FROM DENIAL OF ACCESS TO A COMMUNICATIONS AS WELL AS PURELY MILITARY FACILITY) AND

C. TO PRESERVE CYPRUS' ELIGIBILITY FOR FAMINE AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE.

2. THE PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION MAKES CLEAR

A. THAT EXECUTIVE BRANCH SURVEY HAS INCLUDED FACILITIES IN ORDER TO GIVE FULL EFFECT TO BROAD CONGRESSIONAL PURPOSE OF ASSURING PRESS ACCESS TO USG FACILITIES;

B. THAT THE COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES IN QUESTION ARE INCLUDED IN THIS SURVEY RE "BASES" ONLY FOR THE LIMITED PURPOSES OF SECTION 29 OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT.

C. THAT PUBLIC IDENTIFICATION OF SUCH FACILITIES AS BASES COULD JEOPARDIZE US ACCESS TO THEM, PARTICULARLY IN COUNTRIES WHICH DO NOT REGARD THESE FACILITIES AS "BASES".

D. THAT THE LIST IS ACCORDINGLY CLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL AND EXEMPTED FROM THE GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE.

3. SPECIAL USE OF TERM "BASES" FURTHER HIGHLIGHTED BY FACT THAT IT ALWAYS IN QUOTATION MARKS WHENEVER MENTIONED.

4. WE ARE RECOMMENDING THAT THE PRESIDENT MAKE A GENERAL DETERMINATION THAT ALL 27 COUNTRIES HAVING "BASES", AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 29, DO COMPLY WITH THAT PROVISION OF LAW. (THIS IS THE DETERMINATION DESCRIBED PARA 1, REF B.) THE DETERMINATION, IF APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER BUT WILL MAKE NO REFERENCE TO ANY FOREIGN COUNTRY. A SEPARATE DOCUMENT, WHICH SERVES AS THE JUSTIFICATION FOR DETERMINATION, WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL

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SPECIFY THE 27 COUNTRIES AND WILL BE FURNISHED TO BOTH FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS, WITH APPROPRIATE INJUNCTION REGARDING ITS CLASSIFICATION.

5. FOLLOWING IS PROPOSED WORDING OF SECTION ON CYPRUS INCLUDED IN JUSTIFICATION. "CYPRUS DOES NOT RECEIVE BILATERAL MILITARY OR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS FORCE ON CYPRUS IS NOT

AFFECTED SINCE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ARE NOT SPECIFIED IN SECTION 29. WHETHER THE US DEPARTMENT OF STATE REGIONAL RADIO OFFICE, WHERE MILITARY PERSONNEL ARE ENGAGED SOLELY IN COMMUNICATIONS WORK, IS A "MILITARY BASE" WITHIN THE MEANING OF SECTION 29 IS HIGHLY QUESTIONABLE. HOWEVER, THIS ISSUE NEED NOT BE RESOLVED SINCE ACCESS TO THE FACILITY IS NOT LIMITED IN ANY WAY BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS, BUT IS CONTROLLED BY US OFFICIALS."

6. WE WELCOME EMBASSY'S REACTION TO PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION. PORTER

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